<u>**Applicant Initiated Interview – Proposed Agenda**</u>

<u>Preliminary Information</u>
- Application No.: 10/088,224
- First Named Applicant: Pinson, Denis
- Participants:
  o Examiner Shew Fen Lin
  o Eric G. King, Reg. No. 42,736
- Art Unit: 2166
- Proposed Interview Date: Weds, September 2, 2009 at 11:00 AM
- Type of Interview: Telephonic
- Exhibit to be Shown/Demonstrated: No

<u>Issue</u>

Pre-Interview Communication – Notification of Rejections:

- Rejection of Claims 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Pat. No. 4,266,271 to Chamoff et al. ("Chamoff") in combination with U.S. Pat. No. 5,801,659 to Sugiyama et al. ("Sugiyama") (references A & C)

- Rejection of Claims 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chamoff and Sugiyama in further combination with Published U.S. App. No. 2003/0202539 to Fukunaga et al. (references A, B & C)

<u>Discussion</u>

1) Overview of the claimed invention;

2) Review of the scope and content of applied references Chamoff, Sugiyama, and Fukunaga, and discussion of interpretation of the teachings found therein;

3) Discussion of scope and interpretation of claim terms in pending independent Claim 9; and

4) Discussion of distinguishing features of Claim 9 and/or proposed amendments to Claim 9 to further distinguish from the applied references.

--PROPOSED--

Docket No.: T2147-907751

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

First Named Inventor: Denis PINSON

Application No.: 10/088,224

Filed: March 19, 2002

For: LINK BETWEEN A CENTRAL SYSTEM
AND A SATELLITE SYSTEM FOR
EXECUTING OPERATIONS OF THE
CENTRAL SWITCH

Art Unit: 2166

Examiner:
LIN, Shew Fen

Confirmation No.: 9864

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 14, 2009, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 7 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7. (canceled)

8. (withdrawn) A linking structure located between a central system and a satellite system, which executes operations of the central system by the satellite system, said linking structure comprising:

a link between the central system and the satellite system;

a control card, in the central system, that places said operations in one or more data blocks; and

a coupler, in the satellite system, that sends to the control card at least one read command through the link, said control card being responsive to said one read command to send said one or more data blocks through the link to the coupler.

9. (currently amended) A method for exchanging information between a central system and a satellite system, which executes at least one operation of the central system, said method comprising:

a first step which includes sending a read command identified by a first logical unit number from the satellite system to the central system;

a second step which includes sending from said central system a first data block containing said operation in response to said read command; [[and]]

2

a third step which includes receiving said first data block in the satellite system in order to process said operation, said second step and said third step being performed concomitantly;

transmitting, by said satellite system, an operation control block to a control portion of a peripheral coupler of the satellite system; and

transmitting, by said satellite system, an operation data block to a data portion of the peripheral coupler of the satellite system,

wherein said operation control block and said operation data blocks are used by said satellite system to execute said operation using a peripheral subsystem operably coupled to said satellite system via said peripheral coupler.

10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:

a fourth step which includes sending a write command from the satellite system to the central system identified by a second logical unit number and a second data block resulting from said operation.

11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:

a fifth step which includes sending a read command identified by a third logical unit number from the satellite system to the central system;

a sixth step which includes sending from the central system, in response to said read command, a third data block containing said operation; and

a seventh step which includes receiving, in the satellite system, said third data block in order to process the operation in said third data block, said seventh step and said second step being performed concomitantly.

3

Claim 12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:

~~an eighth step which includes~~ sending a write command identified by a fourth logical unit number from the satellite system to the central system and a fourth data block resulting from said operation.

Claim 14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said first data block includes:

a first field containing commands or data of said operation; and

a header containing a second field for identifying a logical channel corresponding to said operation and a third field for indicating a length of the first field.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said first data block includes:

a first field containing commands or data of said operation; and

a header containing a second field for identifying a logical channel corresponding to said operation and a third field for indicating a length of the first field.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein said first data block includes:

4

a first field containing commands or data of said operation; and

a header containing a second field for identifying a logical channel

corresponding to said operation and a third field for indicating a length of the first field.

Claim 18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said first

data block includes:

a first field containing commands or data of said operation; and

a header containing a second field for identifying a logical channel

corresponding to said operation and a third field for indicating a length of the first field.

Claim 20. (canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A satellite system for processing an operation of a central

system, comprising:

a first coupler for sending a read command to the central system and

receiving a response from the central system, said response including at least one first

data block constituted by a first field containing commands or data of said operation and a

header containing a second field for identifying a logical channel corresponding to said

operation and a third field for indicating a length of the first field;

a processor for processing contents of the first field as a function of the

header of the block; and

5

a second coupler for sending a write command to the central system accompanied by at least one second data block, wherein the first field contains a result of said operation and wherein the header identifies the logical channel corresponding to said operation.

22. (new) The method according to claim 9,

wherein said first step is performed using a first directional link,

wherein said second step is performed using a second directional link having a direction different from said first directional link, and

wherein said satellite system is master for the first and second directional links.

23. (new) The method according to claim 22,

wherein said first directional link is an uplink from said satellite system to said central system, and

wherein said second directional link is a downlink from said central system to said satellite system.

6

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

By this Amendment, Claim 9 has been amended to more particularly recite subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention, as discussed in detail below. Claims 10, 11, and 14 have also been amended for clarity. Claims 12, 14, 18, and 20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to reduce the issues. Claims 1-7 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claims 8 and 21 currently stand as withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected inventions. New Claims 22 and 23 have been added to provide further protection for Applicants' invention.

Thus, Claims 9-11, 13, 15-17, 19, 22, and 23 are active pending.

In the Office Action, Claims 9-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Chamoff in combination with Sugiyama; and Claims 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Chamoff and Sugiyama in further combination with Fukunaga.

Without acceding to the rejections, Claim 9 now recites, *inter alia*, transmitting, by the satellite system, an operation control block to a control portion of a peripheral coupler of the satellite system; transmitting, by the satellite system, an operation data block to a data portion of the peripheral coupler of the satellite system, and that the operation control block and said operation data blocks are used by said satellite system to execute said operation using a peripheral subsystem operably coupled to the satellite system via the peripheral coupler. Support is provided, for example, at paragraphs [0093] and [0096]; and FIGS. 1 and 5 of Applicants' English-language specification. It is apparent that the applied references do not teach or suggest this combination of features.

7

For example, primary reference Chamoff is directed to a reconfigurable cluster of data-entry terminals. *See* Chamoff, Abstract. Accordingly, Chamoff is not seen as teaching or suggesting transmitting, by the satellite system, an *operation* control block to a control portion of a peripheral coupler of the satellite system, such that the operation control block and said operation data blocks are used by said satellite system to execute said operation using a peripheral subsystem operably coupled to the satellite system via the peripheral coupler, as recited in Claim 9.

Furthermore, the secondary references are not seen as remedying Chamoff's deficiency in this regard. For example, secondary reference Sugiyama is directed to a point-of-sale system that uses a backup file and a master file. *See* Sugiyama, Abstract. Sugiyama is understood as teaching that the backup file and the master file are updated to maintain point-of-sale information using, among other things, a file control section (14). Sugiyama, col. 4, lines 50-68; and FIGS. 1 and 2.

In addition, Fukunaga is directed to an information processing apparatus and storage medium. *See* Fukunaga, Abstract. Accordingly, Fukunaga is not understood as teaching or suggesting a satellite system at all.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 9 distinguishes patentably from the applied references.

Dependent Claims 10, 11, 13, 15-17, and 19 are also believed to be patentable due at least to their dependence from Claim 9 as well as for the additional subject matter recited in Claims 10, 11, 13, 15-17, and 19.

Furthermore, new claims 22 and 23 are also believed to be patentable due at least to their dependence from Claim 9 as well as for the additional subject matter recited in Claims 22 and 23. For example, Claim 22 recites that the first step is performed using a

8

first directional link, the second step is performed using a second directional link having a direction different from the first directional link, and that the satellite system is master for the first and second directional links. Support is provided, for example, at paragraph [0012] of Applicants' English-language specification. It is apparent that the applied references do not teach or suggest these features.

For example, the primary reference, Chamoff, teaches a cluster of data entry terminals including satellite terminals and media terminals. *See* Chamoff, FIGS. 5 and 6. Chamoff teaches that his media terminal – not the satellite terminal – can be designated as a "primary" terminal that "controls data flow on the link and storage in its own central storage." Chamoff, col. 2, lines 24-28; col. 19, lines 32-58; and FIG. 21. Chamoff's media terminals are reconfigurably clustered such that a designated "backup" media terminal can take over the duties of a "primary" media terminal if the primary terminal malfunctions. *See* Chamoff, col. 2, line 15 to col. 3, line 8; col. 6, lines 38-46. Chamoff also discusses prior art systems in which one terminal is designated a master terminal and "data from the remaining terminals is applied through the master terminal for recording on the magnetic cassette." Chamoff, col. 1, lines 27-37.

However, Chamoff is not seen as teaching or suggesting that any of his satellite terminals can serve as a master terminal.

The secondary references are not seen as remedying Chamoff's deficiency in this regard. For example, secondary reference Sugiyama teaches a master terminal 24 that is distinct from a plurality of satellite terminals 30. *See* Sugiyama, FIG. 1. As noted above, Fukunaga does not teach or suggest satellite systems at all.

Therefore, new Claims 22 and 23 are also believed to distinguish patentably from the applied references.

9

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request a prompt Notice of Allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-907751) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August ___, 2009   By: _____
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10